

or their external profession.—a *religion of humanity* which cannot perish in the overthrow of altars or the fall of temples, which survives them all and which, were every defined form of religion obliterated from the face of the world, would recreate religion, as the spring recreates the fruits and flowers of the soil, bidding it bloom again in beauty, bear again its rich fruits of utility, and fashion for itself such forms and modes of expression as may best agree with the progressive condition of mankind.

To the myriad ills of the human race, the sovereign remedy, according to the *Rishis*, is an ever-expanding faith in a wise and loving God—neither a cloistered faith that scorns and shuns society, nor a busy care-worn faith that assigns the leisure hour to a hurried worship, nor the prudent faith that imports a God to watch a truant world, nor yet a speculative faith that prefixes a creator to a law-governed universe ; but a living faith in a direct vision of His in-dwelling Glory and a personal communion with His immanent Spirit. The *Rishis* proclaim the eternal verity of the religious sense, the undivided unity, the unconditioned infinity, the unalloyed spirituality, the unrivalled

supremacy, the unparalleled wisdom, the unfailing love and the unstained holiness of the Deity, the essential unity of divine truth, the inexorable uniformity of divine law, the inviolable right of spiritual freedom, the impartial universality of divine inspiration, the increasing glory of divine vision, the inevitable fluctuations and varieties of religious expression, the imperative duty and the incalculable worth of spiritual worship, the mutual fulfilment of faith and service in love, the whole-souled faith in an all Perfect God and a whole-hearted love for an ever-expanding humanity. The Rishis proclaim the profound incomprehensibility and the sole omnipotence of the Supreme Being. The Rishis declare God alone as the object of worship and obedience. His worship alone as the way to beatitude, the inseparability of pure morality from